

Maureen E. McGrath
Attorney At Law

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] NE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

February 11, 2002

Federal Trade Commission
Office of the Secretary
Room 159
600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20580

Re: Proposed Modification of Telemarketing Sales Rule

Gentlemen:

I am writing to provide my comments on your proposed modifications of the Telemarketing Sales Rule, as follows:

1. I am wholeheartedly in favor of your proposed establishment of a toll-free number through which consumers can request to be placed on a "do not call" list to prevent telemarketers from calling. I have recently been barraged by a series of telemarketing calls from my local telephone company, Qwest Communications Company, trying to sell me additional features for my home phone. When I finally demanded that they remove my name from their calling list, the telemarketer responded with a snotty remark and, thereafter, I have been receiving telephone calls every two hours beginning in the afternoon and extending to 8:30 at night where the caller hangs up as soon as I say "hello." I have been unable to obtain identification of this caller through the *69 system and I cannot trace the call through the *57 system, all because telemarketers have the ability to conceal their numbers from these identification systems. Although I have not been able to identify the source of these harrassing calls, I believe it is the smart alec Qwest telemarketer who is doing this and, accordingly, I have written a letter to Qwest demanding that they investigate their telemarketing activities to identify the individual and put a stop to this harrassment.

2. I also completely favor your proposal to stop telemarketers from hiding their identities from consumers. Although I do not have caller ID, I should have been able to obtain to identify the source of the above-mentioned harassing calls through *69 or at least I should have been able to put a trace on the calls through *57. Telemarketers who misuse their access to private phone numbers should be identified and sanctioned.